

# Earth Day Award Presentation

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources & ConocoPhillips Pinyon-Juniper Treatment Project



#### **Project Overview**

- Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) and ConocoPhillips partnered on a sagebrush restoration project near Hiawatha, Utah.
- Project was designed to remove Pinyon-Juniper trees which have encroached on sagebrush habitat and reduced wildlife usage.
- ConocoPhillips voluntarily provided funding and logistical assistance for project implementation.
- Company has also provided funding for other sagebrush habitat improvement projects in western states through the Sage Grouse Initiative and Intermountain West Joint Venture projects.



#### Project Objectives

- Remove Pinyon-Juniper trees that have encroached on sagebrush habitat
- Protect remaining sagebrush and other vegetation from being outcompeted by Pinyon-Juniper vegetation
- Reseed the area with sagebrush and native species
- Increase amount of available forage for wildlife, such as mule deer, elk, and sage-grouse
- Reduce impacts to species dependent on sagebrush habitat
- Expand critical winter range for big game species
- Promote partnership for sagebrush habitat restoration and improvement in Utah and other western states

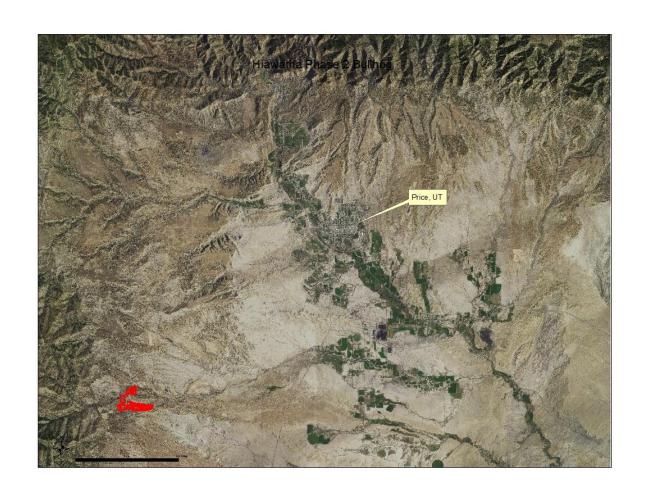


#### Project Results

- 238 acres of ground cleared of archaeological resources
- 238 Total acres of Pinyon-Juniper removed
- 238 acres aerially seeded with native plant species
- Reseeded areas will provide forage for summer and winter range for big game species such as elk and deer.
- Avian species also will benefit. Additional new vegetation promote rabbit and small animal populations which in turn benefit a large golden and bald eagle population in the immediate area, as well as other raptors.
- Additionally, the expanded sagebrush area will encourage use by species that use sagebrush for a portion of their life cycle. Habitat improvement across western states is critical to keeping small birds species off the endangered species list.



## Project Location: Southwest of Price, UT



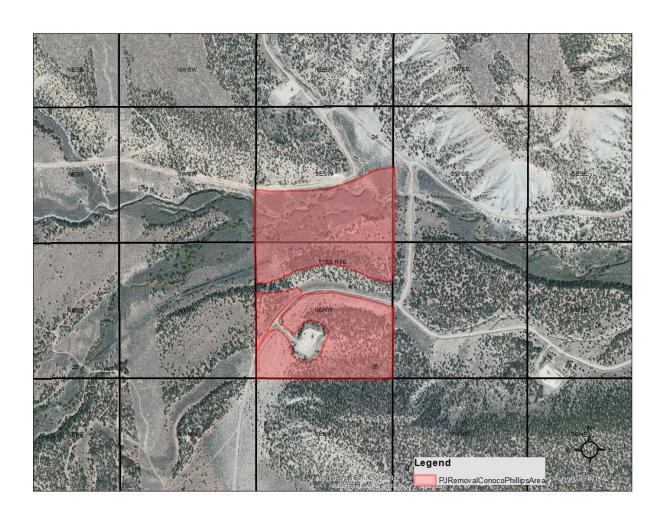


## Map of Project Area





## **ConocoPhillips Portion**





#### **ConocoPhillips Contribution**

- 43 acres of company-owned property was included in the project
- Signed a cooperative agreement to pay for all expenses related to the project (i.e. bullhog, aerially seeding, archaeological surveys) that occurred on the property
- The total monetary contribution was approximately \$21,000



## Bullhog/Tree Masticator





### Treated Area/Masticated Trees





# Aerial Seeding





## View of Project Area Post Treatment





#### **Earth Day Nomination**

"ConocoPhillips has gone above and beyond industry requirements to benefit wildlife and the ecosystem by participating and contributing so generously to this project."

Robby Edgel (UDWR biologist)

